

Tonight and Tuesday cloudy; probably rain or snow. Local report—Maximum, 40°; minimum, 30°; range, 20°; at 5 a.m., 21°; north wind; clear.

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Steinbach Is Now in French Hands Berlin Concedes

Town in Alsace, Where Fighting Has Been from House to House, at Last Taken by Soldiers of Republic.

Berlin, Jan. 4 (via Wireless to London, 4:55 p.m.)—Steinbach, the Alsatian town on the heights between Thann and Sennheim, for which desperate fighting has been going on for several days, was officially admitted by the German army headquarters statement today to have been captured by the French.

The French also took possession of the heights to the west of Sennheim, but the Germans in a counter attack with the bayonet succeeded in regaining the position.

The text of the communication follows:

"In the western theater of war, except for a more or less heavy artillery combat along the front, was generally quiet.

Only near Thann (Alsace) did the enemy show great activity. After an overwhelming bombardment of the heights to the west of Sennheim, the enemy succeeded during the evening in capturing our demolished trenches on these heights and in connecting therewith the village of Steinbach, which we stubbornly defended and which frequently has been mentioned in our reports during the last few days. The heights were retaken during the night after a bayonet attack. Fighting for the village of Steinbach continues."

"In the eastern theater of the war the situation is unchanged. Our armies in Poland to the east of the Meuse river continue."

GERMAN-AUSTRIAN FORCES ADEQUATE TO WAR IS CLAIM

Washington, Jan. 4.—The Austrian-Hungarian minister for foreign affairs sent the following dispatch to the embassy here today:

"The whole press, in taking a retrospective view of the six months' war, expresses a firm conviction that the Austria-Hungarian monarchy, united with Germany, is adequate to brave every storm. The successes up until now by land and sea, the financial stability of the country, the courage and perseverance of the troops, have given the country imperturbable confidence in the victory of our arms. The people who are united in making the greatest sacrifices in this just cause are firm in their belief in final victory in the struggle, which has been forced upon them."

TAFT SCORED AS "HIGH PRIEST OF REACTION"

Washington, Jan. 4.—At the opening of the second national conference on popular government here today Senator Owen of Oklahoma, characterized former President Taft as "the high priest of reaction" and scolded many national figures for their opposition to the initiative, the referendum and the recall.

"Fifteen men in public life within twelve months," he said, "made set speeches against the growth of sentiment in favor of the initiative, the referendum and the recall and had them printed as senate documents and widely distributed."

Robbers Get \$3,000.

Little Rock, Ark., Jan. 4.—Three masked robbers today entered the Central Bank and Trust company here, locked the cashier, D. E. Wadden, T. E. Hale, teller, and a woman stenographer in the vaults and escaped with \$3,000.

WILSON WANTS TO ACCEPT REQUESTS FOR SPEECHES

EMBARGO ON ARM EXPORTATION IS CURE FOR SHIP STOPPAGE

Theodore Sutro Points Out to House Committee How Interference With Vessels Can Be Prevented.

GERMAN AMERICANS ASK THAT STEP BE TAKEN

Washington, Jan. 4.—"Forbid the exportation of all munitions of war that are contraband and you will remove the excuse for the British conduct which called forth the note of protest recently sent to London," said Theodore Sutro of New York, addressing the house foreign relations committee today in favor of pending congressional resolutions to stop exports of war materials to European belligerents. Delegations from New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Baltimore, among them representatives of the German-American alliance and the Ancient Order of Hibernians, appeared in favor of the resolutions.

U. J. Hexamer of Philadelphia, president of the German-American Alliance, presented memorials adopted by that organization in many states urging the adoption of one of the resolutions.

These memorials included a letter written by Mr. Hexamer to President Wilson, dated December 3, "for the interest of neutrality," saying that one of the nations engaged in the war "could get munitions from this country."

"Our failure in keeping strict neutrality becomes thereby," the letter continued, "an untried if not impossible act against one particular nation."

An official Russian statement shows that, after capturing Bialystok, the Germans attempted to push on to the northeast in the direction of Warsaw, about thirty miles away. This movement marked the renewal of the German offensive toward the Polish capital, after a period of comparative inactivity, but their advance in this direction is said to have been repulsed with large losses.

A remarkable night battle on the bank of the Bzura river is described in the Russian communiqué, which says that German forces were permitted to cross the river unopposed and then were attacked with bayonets, without the firing of a shot. It is asserted that several hundred Germans were killed and the remainder surrendered.

In the other campaigns on Europe's battlefields no essential changes are reported. In the trans-Caucasian region the Turks and Russians are engaged in fierce struggles, but reports from Petrograd and Constantinople concerning the outcome are at complete variance. In France and Belgium the attacks of the allies have failed to develop into another great battle and it is believed in London that the attempt to expel the Germans from their conquered territory may be

defeated for several months.

The report says:

"Undoubtedly it was one of the inspiring motives for those who framed this bill, to release boats which have been interned as a result of the war. The president has gone to the almost unprecedented limit of using his utmost endeavor to discourage private loans to belligerents. Is it consistent with so strict an application of the neutrality policy to make, at least indirectly, available to one of the belligerents many millions of dollars which had been made unavailable by the incidents of war destruction?"

Concerning the government ownership feature of the bill, the report declares it to be an experiment that cannot be justified by any of the arguments which apply to the taking over or a naturally monopolistic public enterprise, "because the shipping field is far from naturally monopolistic."

The report also asserts that the plan would be futile in reducing ocean rates.

Senator Root, in debate, declared no measure of equal consequence had been brought before congress in many millions of dollars which had said, to put the government into foreign trade at a time of extreme danger. The result must be, he insisted, to place in question the good faith of the United States itself in carrying goods to belligerents.

Senator Root protested against any efforts to limit debate.

Senator Fletcher replied it was not the purpose of the majority to limit discussion.

Washington, Jan. 4.—President Wilson today began planning the speeches he expects to make on his return trip from the San Francisco exposition this spring. He told callers he wanted to receive some of the invitations and soon would map out a definite itinerary.

Senator Thomas and Representative Kettler of Colorado asked him to speak at Denver. Senator Fletcher and Senator Gore asked him to speak at the Southern Commercial Congress at Muskogee, Okla., in April. Senator Shepard invited him to speak in Dallas. Institutions already have been extended to him to speak in Chicago, Omaha, St. Louis, Kansas City, Salt Lake City, Los Angeles, Milwaukee and Indianapolis.

DEVELOPMENT THE GREATEST NEED IN WYOMING

Governor Kendrick Urges Legislature to Take Steps in Aid of Rural Districts and Farmers.

Cheyenne, Wyo., Jan. 4.—Agriculture and the development of the rural districts of Wyoming formed the text for the main portions of Governor John B. Kendrick's inaugural address here today. The executive urged legislature co-operation intended to encourage settlement of the rural districts, to advance mining and stock raising and "to conserve as far as possible the waters of Wyoming for the benefit and use of the people of Wyoming."

The oath of office was administered to the governor by Chief Justice R. W. Scott, whose term as chief justice of the supreme court expired immediately thereafter. C. N. Potter, the new chief justice, administered the oath to the other officials, including Justice Scott, who was re-elected to the supreme bench as an associate justice.

KARLSRUHE REPORTED OFF VENEZUELAN COAST ON NIGHT OF JAN. FIRST

Willemstad, Curacao, Jan. 4.—Report is current here today that the American steamer *Mesopotamia* of the *Red Line* saw the German cruiser Karlsruhe, one of the few German warships still at large in the Atlantic, the night of January 1, between the islands and the Venezuelan port of La Guaira.

TWELVE INJURED IN MINNESOTA WRECK

Albertville, Minn., Jan. 4.—Twelve persons were injured seriously, three probably fatally, early today when a fast southbound passenger train on the Minneapolis and St. Louis railroad was wrecked at Ely, Minn., by a defective switch. The chain car and smoker were demolished.

Santa Fe Explosion Injures Six.

Santa Fe, N. M., Jan. 4.—Ernest Kimball of Raton is in a critical condition as the result of the bursting of a shotgun with which he was hunting. One hand, his forehead and side were badly torn by flying metal.

Moore to Visit Maya Ruins.

Santa Fe, N. M., Jan. 4.—Edwin G. Morley, Harvard scientist and authority on the chronology of the monuments of the ancient Mayas in Central America, who has done important exploration work there, leaves this week under the auspices of the Carnegie Institution to make further researches. His findings are considered of vast importance to science.

Publisher Gets on State Board.

Des Moines, Iowa, Jan. 4.—Gordon Cowles, publisher of the Des Moines Register and Leader, was today appointed a member of the state board of education by Governor Clarke. He succeeds J. H. Truett of Cedar Rapids who resigned last week.

WILSON MAY URGE RURAL CREDITS LAW AT THIS SESSION

Washington, Jan. 4.—President Wilson has received pressing requests from different parts of the country that rural credits legislation be taken up during the present session of congress, and he is considering the advisability of changing his plan to put the subject over to next December.

Chairman Glass of the house banking committee told the president today it would not be advisable to take up the subject until time had been allowed for the working out of the farm loan features of the federal bank law.

Chairman Glass' Plan.

United States District Attorney Marshall said Deiches, prior to abdication, had waived immunity and made a statement to him. Mr. Marshall also asserted that government agents knew the whereabouts of Hans Adam Van Wedel, a lawyer who Mr. Marshall said is wanted in connection with the alleged conspiracies.

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